

McGraw-Hill Dictionary of Scientific and Technical Terms

Fifth Edition

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Editor in Chief

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ATTACHMENT "B"

On the cover: Photomicrograph of crystals of vitamin B₁.
(Dennis Kunkel, University of Hawaii)

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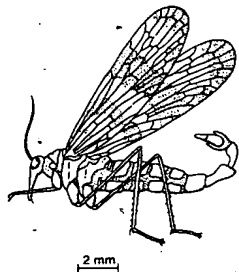
INTERNATIONAL EDITION

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MECOPTERA

scorpion fly (*Panorpa*).

in the fetal intestine, becoming the first fecal discharge of the newborn. { mə'kō-nē-əm }

meconium ileus [MED] Intestinal obstruction in the newborn with cystic fibrosis due to trypsin deficiency. { mə'kō-nē-əm 'il-ē-əs }

Mecoptera [INV ZOO] The scorpion flies, a small order of insects; adults are distinguished by the peculiar prolongation of the head into a beak, which bears chewing mouthparts. { mə'kăpt-ēr-ə }

mecystasis [PHYSIO] Increase in muscle length with maintenance of the original degree of tension. { mə'sis-tə-səs }

media [HISTOL] The middle, muscular layer in the wall of a vein, artery, or lymph vessel. { 'mē-dē-ə }

media conversion [COMPUT SCI] The transfer of data from one storage type (such as punched cards) to another storage type (such as magnetic tape). { 'mē-dē-ə kən,vər-zhən }

media conversion buffer [COMPUT SCI] Large storage area, such as a drum, on which data may be stored at low speed during nonexecution time, to be later transferred at high speed into core memory during execution time. { 'mē-dē-ə kən,vər-zhən ,bəf-ər }

mediad [ANAT] Toward the median line or plane of the body or of a part of the body. { 'mē-dē-ad }

medial [ANAT] 1. Being internal as opposed to external (lateral). 2. Toward the midline of the body. [SCI TECH] Located in the middle. { 'mē-dē-əl }

medial arteriosclerosis [MED] Calcification of the tunica media of small and medium-sized muscular arteries. Also known as medial calcinosis; Mönckeberg's arteriosclerosis. { 'mē-dē-əl ,ärtir-ē-ō-sklə-rō-səs }

medial calcinosis See medial arteriosclerosis. { 'mē-dē-əl ,kal-sə-nō-səs }

medial lemniscus [ANAT] A lemniscus arising in the nucleus gracilis and nucleus cuneatus of the brain, crossing immediately as internal arcuate fibers, and terminating in the posterolateral ventral nucleus of the thalamus. { 'mē-dē-əl lem'nisk-əs }

medial moraine [GEOL] 1. An elongate moraine carried in or upon the middle of a glacier and parallel to its sides. 2. A moraine formed by glacial abrasion of a rocky protuberance near the middle of a glacier. { 'mē-dē-əl mō'rān }

medial necrosis [MED] Death of cells in the tunica media of arteries. Also known as medionecrosis. { 'mē-dē-əl ne'krō-səs }

media migration [CHEM ENG] Carryover of fibers or other filter material by liquid effluent from a filter unit. { 'mē-dē-ə mī'grā-shən }

median [MATH] 1. Any line in a triangle which joins a vertex to the midpoint of the opposite side. 2. The line that joins the midpoints of the nonparallel sides of a trapezoid. Also known as midline. [SCI TECH] Located in the middle. [STAT] An average of a series of quantities or values; specifically, the quantity or value of that item which is so positioned in the series, when arranged in order of numerical quantity or value, that there are an equal number of items of greater magnitude and lesser magnitude. { 'mē-dē-ən }

median effective dose See effective dose 50. { 'mē-dē-ən i'fektiv 'dōs }

median infective dose See infective dose 50. { 'mē-dē-ən in'fektiv 'dōs }

median lethal dose See lethal dose 50. { 'mē-dē-ən 'lēth-əl 'dōs }

median lethal time [MICROBIO] The period of time required for 50% of a large group of organisms to die following a specific dose of an injurious agent, such as a drug or radiation. { 'mē-dē-ən 'lēth-əl ,tīm }

median mass [GEOL] A less disturbed structural block in the middle of an orogenic belt, bordered on both sides by orogenic structure, thrust away from it. Also known as betwixt mountains; Zwischengebirge. { 'mē-dē-ən 'mas }

median maxillary cyst [MED] Cystic dilation of embryonal inclusions in the incisive fossa or between the roots of the central incisors. Also known as nasopalatine cyst. { 'mē-dē-ən 'mak-sə,lərē ,sist }

median nasal process [EMBRYO] The region below the frontonasal sulcus between the olfactory sacs; forms the bridge and mobile septum of the nose and various parts of the upper jaw and lip. { 'mē-dē-ən 'nāz-əl ,prə-səs }

median nerve test [MED] A test for loss of function of the median nerve by having the patient abduct the thumb at right

angles to the palm with fingertips in contact and forming a pyramid. { 'mē-dē-ən 'nərv ,test }

median particle diameter [GEOL] The middlemost particle diameter of a rock or sediment, larger than 50% of the diameter in the distribution and smaller than the other 50%. { 'mē-dē-ən 'pārd-ə-kəl dī ,am-əd-ər }

median point [MATH] The point at which all three medians of a triangle intersect. { 'med-ē-ən ,pōint }

median strip [CIV ENG] A paved or planted section dividing a highway into lanes according to direction of travel. { 'mē-dē-ən 'stri:p }

mediastinitis [MED] Inflammation of the mediastinum. { ,mē-dē ,as-tə 'nīd-əs }

mediastinum [ANAT] 1. A partition separating adjacent parts. 2. The space in the middle of the chest between the two pleurae. { ,mē-dē-ə 'stī-nəm }

medical bacteriology [MED] A branch of medical microbiology that deals with the study of bacteria which affect human health, especially those which produce disease. { 'med-ə-kəl bak,tirē 'āl-ə-jē }

medical chemical engineering [CHEM ENG] The application of chemical engineering to medicine, frequently involving mass transport and separation processes, especially at the molecular level. { 'med-ə-kəl 'kem-ə-kəl ,en-jə 'nīr-ij }

medical climatology [MED] The study of the relation between climate and disease. { 'med-ə-kəl ,klīm-ə 'tāl-ə-jē }

medical electronics [ELECTR] A branch of electronics in which electronic instruments and equipment are used for such medical applications as diagnosis, therapy, research, anesthesia control, cardiac control, and surgery. { 'med-ə-kəl i ,lek'trən-iks }

medical entomology [MED] The study of insects that are vectors for diseases and parasitic infestations in humans and domestic animals. { 'med-ə-kəl ,en-tə 'māl-ə-jē }

medical ethics [MED] Principles and moral values of proper medical conduct. { 'med-ə-kəl 'eth-iks }

medical examiner [MED] A professionally qualified physician duly authorized and charged by a governmental unit to determine facts concerning causes of death, particularly deaths not occurring under natural circumstances, and to testify thereto in courts of law. { 'med-ə-kəl ig'zam-ə-nər }

medical frequency bands [COMMUN] A collection of radio frequency bands allocated to medical equipment in the United States. { 'med-ə-kəl 'frē-kwən-sē ,bānz }

medical genetics [GEN] A field of human genetics concerned with the relationship between heredity and disease. { 'med-ə-kəl jə'ned-iks }

medical geography [MED] The study of the relation between geographic factors and disease. { 'med-ə-kəl jē'āgr-ə-fē }

medical history [MED] An account of a patient's past and present state of health obtained from the patient or relatives. { 'med-ə-kəl 'his-trē }

medical imaging [MED] The production of visual representations of body parts, tissues, or organs, for use in clinical diagnosis; encompasses x-ray methods, magnetic resonance imaging, single-photon-emission and positron-emission tomography, and ultrasound. { 'med-ə-kəl 'im-ij-ij }

medical microbiology [MED] The study of microorganisms which affect human health. { 'med-ə-kəl ,mī-krō-bī 'āl-ə-jē }

medical mycology [MED] A branch of medical microbiology that deals with fungi that are pathogenic to humans. { 'med-ə-kəl mī'kāl-ə-jē }

medical parasitology [MED] A branch of medical microbiology which deals with the relationship between humans and those animals which live in or on them. { 'med-ə-kəl ,par-ə-sī 'tāl-ə-jē }

medical protozoology [MED] A branch of medical microbiology that deals with the study of Protozoa which are parasites of humans. { 'med-ə-kəl ,prō-dō-zō 'āl-ə-jē }

medical radiography [MED] The use of x-rays to produce photographic images for visualizing internal anatomy as an aid in diagnosis. { 'med-ə-kəl ,rād-ē 'āgr-ə-fē }

medication [MED] 1. A medicinal substance. 2. Treatment by or administration of a medicine. { ,med-ə 'kā-shən }

medicinal [MED] Of, pertaining to, or having the nature of medicine. { mə'dis-ən-əl }

medicinal oil [MATER] A highly refined, colorless, tasteless and odorless petroleum oil used medicinally as an internal lu-

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